

Katz/Lin win UAP/VP; activities fee fails

Fee opposed by 47 percent

By Michael Gojer

The student body narrowly voted down the activities fee referendum in Wednesday's Undergraduate Association elections. Forty-seven percent of 1756 votes cast in the elections were against the fee, with 42 percent for it. The fee referendum would have created a line-item on students' term bills to be appropriated directly to student activities through the UA financial board — and raised \$160,000 for student activities.

Incumbent UA president Manuel Rodriguez '89 was worried yesterday that the defeat of the referendum might send the wrong message to the administration, saying it will be difficult to obtain increased allocations from the administration for student activities. But Rodriguez did not interpret the failure of the referendum as a statement that students were against activities groups.

The problem of funding the activities — which presently request more than three times the administration's allotted budget — still remains, Rodriguez said, and students will have to continue to deal with it until it is solved.

Rodriguez said he was glad the UA posed the referendum, because it brought the funding issue to the attention of the student body-at-large. But he would have proceeded with caution if the referendum were approved by only a narrow margin, he said.

Rodriguez said it was clear, however, that the UA needed to work on better communications with the student body, and said that he and Dean S. Ebesu '89, chairman of the UA financial board, had already begun discussing possible changes in Fin-Board, including electing some members at large and reducing the number of members chosen by the outgoing board.

Moreover, the UA will continue to lobby to raise an endowment for student activities, Rodriguez said.

Class officers elected

Many of the sophomore and junior class officers elected Wednesday ran unopposed, and only the top offices in the freshman and senior classes received considerable competition.

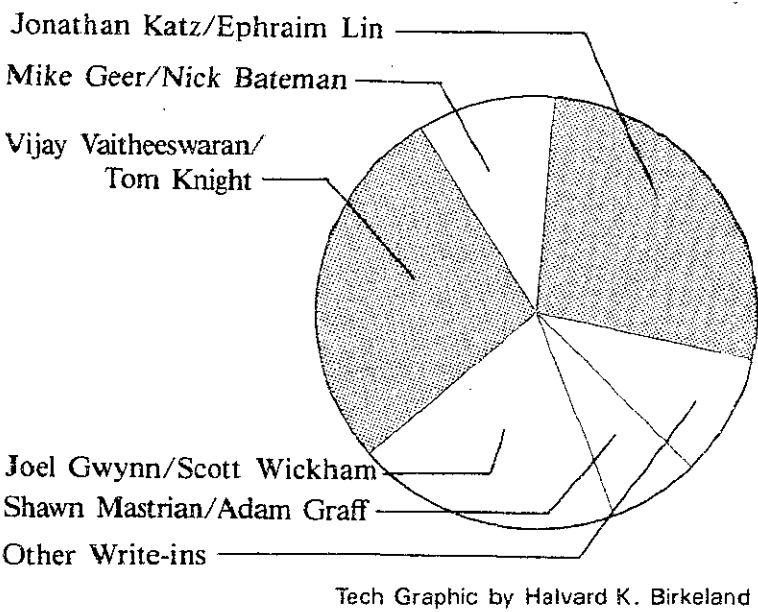
Overall voter turnout this year was higher than in the last several elections, though still not robust. As usual, the freshmen had the highest percentage of voters among the classes, with 44 percent of the Class of '91 voting, though only 36 percent of the seniors turned out, according to statistics released by UA elections commissioner Louisa Conreiras '90.

In races among the freshman, sophomore, and junior classes where only one name appeared on the ballot, students cast a considerably high number of abstentions.

Lisa Martin was reelected as the Class of 1988 president, though the votes in the final round were closely split between her and Carla Kapikain. Martin also served two years ago as vice-president of her class. Tracey Bauvelt, who won this year's vice-presidency for the seniors, took 15 percent of the vote despite running a write-in campaign.

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First Round Balloting for UAP/VP



Tech Graphic by Halvard K. Birkeland

By Niraj S. Desai
Jonathan N. Katz '90 and Ephraim P. Lin '90 were elected president and vice president of the Undergraduate Association in Wednesday's elections, narrowly defeating Vijay V. Vaitheeswaran '90 and Thomas P. Knight '90.

The election was also marked by a surprisingly strong showing by write-in candidates Joel J. Gwynn '89 and Scott R. Wickham '89.

A total of 1737 votes were cast in the UAP/VP election, which was decided in the fourth round of counting. Katz and Lin received 478 votes (27.5 percent) in the first round. They were followed by Vaitheeswaran and Knight with 470 votes (27.1 percent), and Gwynn and Wickham with 336 votes (19.3 percent). Also on the ballot were Michael A. Geer '89 and Nicholas P. T. Bateman '89, who won 177 votes (10.2 percent). The write-in ticket of Shawn J. Mastrian '91 and Adam Braff '91 received 116

votes (6.7 percent).

None of the other candidates received as much as five percent of the vote.

In the final round — after the other candidates' votes had been re-distributed — Katz and Lin won with 700 votes (40.3 percent) over Vaitheeswaran and Knight who had 666 votes (38.3 percent). Three hundred and seventy-one (21.4 percent) of those voting did not list either Katz/Lin or Vaitheeswaran/Knight on their preferential ballots.

Approximately 41 percent of the undergraduate student body voted in the elections. Last year's turnout was 36 percent.

UA suffers from negative image

The major task confronting Katz and Lin is dealing with the UA's negative image among students, Katz said. The election indicated that students do not have much respect for the UA, he said.

Gwynn and Wickham ran a campaign based on money — opposing the Harvard Cooperative Society, ARA, and the student activities fee because they all take excessive money from students. Gwynn also called the UA "a masturbatory organization" — interested only in serving itself — and pledged to "raise some hell" if elected. He said he and Wickham would broaden the UA's base.

(Please turn to page 2)

COD against revised policy

Joss: changes in porn rules not substantial

By Darrel Tarasewicz

The Committee on Discipline said that it "could not enforce" the Faculty Policy Committee's revised policy on sexually explicit films. In a Feb. 26 letter from COD Chairman Paul C. Joss to Bernard J. Frieden, chairman of the Faculty Policy Committee, Joss wrote "the proposed revisions do not represent a substantive change over the existing policy."

The FPC made the revisions after the COD dismissed the original policy as "an excessive restraint on freedom of expression at MIT." The COD refused to punish Adam L. Dershowitz '89 for violating the policy a year ago.

The revisions were sent to the COD so that they could form an "advisory statement," Frieden said.

The COD in its letter proposed an alternative to the current policy. "An ongoing educational program on sensitivity to the rights and feelings of others would be more effective than the present punitive policy," the COD suggested.

Furthermore, the COD felt that such a program could best be achieved by initiating an open

and community-wide discussion.

When it rejected the old policy, the COD called for "a renewed vigorous debate" in the MIT community. But the FPC in its report admitted that it chose not to "conduct community-wide hearings or consultations."

"There will not be a rewriting of the FPC report" in light of the COD's opinion, Frieden said. The recommended revisions to the pornography policy will now be forwarded to the Academic Council, he said.

"They [the Academic Council] will have to take the next move," Frieden said. There will be a lot of negotiation going on between the COD and the Academic Council, he added.

The revised policy would regulate sexually explicit films shown during Residence/Orientation Week and Registration Day of either term. While films shown during this period would have to be approved by a screening committee, they could be shown in classrooms at any other time without regulation.

Another revision stated that any sexually explicit film shown in a dormitory common area would have to be approved by the

screening committee. Under the old policy, such showings would be permitted except during R/O week and on Registration Day. Under the revised policy, three weeks notice prior to showing the film would be required.



Photo courtesy Christopher J. Andrews
Eric Ostling '88, Scott Lichtman '88, and Jeanette Ryan W, members of the band *Vital Science*, pose on the pedestals in Lobby 7. They will perform in the Battle of the Band finals this Saturday night at 9:30 in Walker.

ODSA planning followup to "Racial Climate" study

By Annabelle Boyd

The second report of the Minority Student Issues Group — which has been awaited for several months — is expected to be released in September, according to Marilyn Braithwaite, assistant to the dean for student affairs.

The second in a promised series of four, the forthcoming study follows "The Racial Climate on the MIT Campus," a controversial report released in September of 1986 by the MSIG.

"When we began 'The Racial Climate on the MIT Campus,'" Dean for Student Affairs Shirley M. McBay recalled, "the Minority Student Issues Group had four members and little idea of the scope of the minority prob-

lem. Two years and twenty-three additional group members later, we [the MSIG] realized MIT must think anew about its policies dealing with racism and racist behavior on campus."

The MSIG study reported that MIT minority students — defined as American Indians, blacks, Mexican Americans and Puerto Ricans — experienced "unique feelings of isolation, insecurity about their admission because of the perception that others at the Institute believe lower standards are used when admitting minority students, beliefs that others consider minority students as high risks, anxiety about their families' abilities to finance MIT, per-

(Please turn to page 11)

International students polled by dean's office study group

By Mauricio Roman

Almost 1800 international undergraduates and graduate students, as well as some American students, received surveys from the Office of the Dean for Student Affairs last week on their knowledge and use of MIT student support services. The survey is part of a study being conducted by the International Issues Group, which was formed last spring, and follows a survey done a year ago examining internation-

al students' relationships with their departments.

Meanwhile, members of the International Student Association expressed concerns at their elections last week that the fate of international students' Residence/Orientation Week could be affected by the results of the ODSA's survey. ISA officers urged members to respond to the survey in detail.

According to Dean for Student (Please turn to page 2)

UA must combat negative image

(Continued from page 1)

The 19 percent vote garnered by the insurgents Gwynn and Wickham is surprisingly high for write-in candidates, Katz said. Katz interpreted their relative success as a statement of student dissatisfaction with the UA.

If Gwynn and Wickham had been on the ballot, "I think they might have won," Katz said. Also, the presence of so many "joke" candidates further illustrates how poor the UA's image is, he continued.

Vaitheeswaran was impressed by the showing of the write-in candidates. He credited Gwynn and Wickham with raising issues about which students were concerned. They would have done even better had they provided specific solutions for those issues, Vaitheeswaran added.

The relative success of Gwynn and Wickham was not a vote against the UA, Vaitheeswaran believed. Rather it was based on

the money issues that they raised. But Vaitheeswaran did believe the UA needed to do a better job of getting students interested and active in student government.

Wickham expressed surprise that he and Gwynn did not receive more votes. "We thought we were going to win," he said.

Wickham attributed the ticket's loss to their being unable to reach enough students with their message. "Everywhere we went — even into the depths of the UA — we got positive feedback."

Katz was surprised by how close the vote on the student activities fee referendum was (yes: 42 percent, no: 47 percent). "I thought it would be defeated by 2-1," he said.

The referendum was defeated because not enough effort was made to gather student support, according to Katz, who backed the referendum.

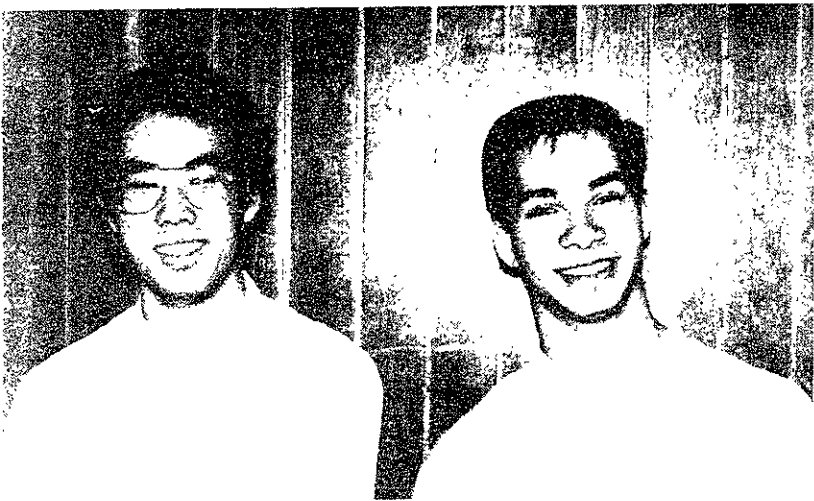
He felt it would now be more difficult to persuade the Office of

the Dean for Student Affairs to grant more money to activities — having failed to get student backing. But the ODSA is planning in the near future to grant an as yet unspecified sum to activities, Katz said.

During the campaign, both Katz and Vaitheeswaran were criticized for not taking specific stands on issues. Katz believed the criticism was not valid.

He and Lin went door-to-door answering students' questions, Katz said. "A lot of people missed our message," he added. "What's going to happen six months from now when the issues are different?" he asked.

Katz said he and Lin would work to increase student interaction with the UA. Without student backing, the UA president is essentially powerless, Katz believed. A UA president without such backing cannot expect the MIT administration to listen to his views — he would just be one student.



Lisette Lambregts/The Tech

Jonathan Katz and Ephraim Lin became the new UA President and Vice President in a close election Wednesday.

International students polled by dean's office study group

(Continued from page 1)

Affairs Shirley M. McBay, the purpose of the present survey is to understand the problems international students face at MIT and how they have dealt with them.

A report on the survey findings will be issued later this year, probably next term, according to Associate Dean for Research Alberta Lipson, who is in charge of compiling the results.

The international student body at MIT consists of 340 undergraduate students — roughly 8 percent of all undergraduates, and 1541 graduate students, representing 30 percent of the graduate student body. As a whole, international students comprise 20 percent of the whole student body at MIT.

The importance of the survey lies both on its magnitude and its depth, since it is the first time international students have been surveyed at large during the last few years, Lipson asserted. The survey covers topics such as R/O; knowledge of support services; financial, personal, social and academic concerns; medical prob-

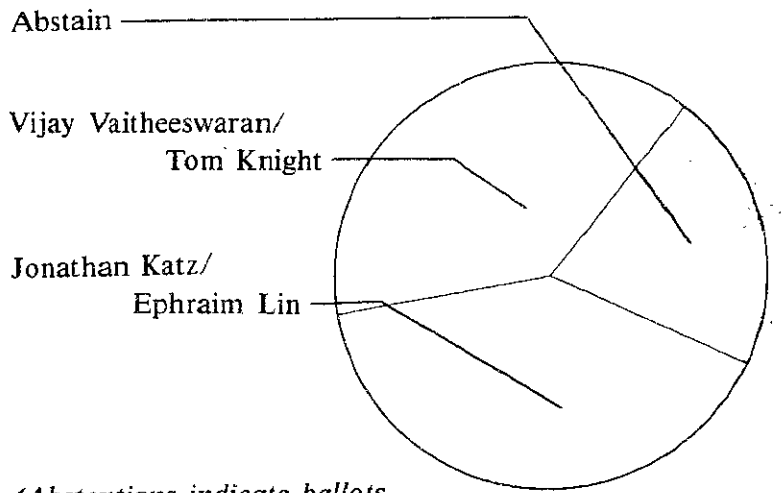
lems; housing arrangements; and extracurricular activities.

The IIG expects that the results of the survey will raise the consciousness of the MIT community on international issues, and thereby foment any pertinent structural changes, Lipson said.

Some changes the survey might bring about in the near future relate to R/O week. The ODSA will communicate their survey results concerning orientation week with the R/O committee before the report is published, Lipson said.

Although some aspects of R/O week are being evaluated through the report, its real significance stems from the growing concern of the MIT administration on international issues, said Karen Zuffante, assistant staff from the International Students' Office and member of the IIG. This office has been working towards making people at MIT conscious on the problems facing international students, and the IIG — of which the International Students Office forms part — encompasses, through the survey, a major task to achieve this purpose.

Final Round Balloting for UAP/VP



(Abstentions indicate ballots which listed neither the Katz nor the Vaitheeswaran ticket)

Tech Graphic by Halvard K. Birkeland

Next year's class officers are selected

(Continued from page 1)

Grace Ma edged out Catherine Suriano in the race for senior class secretary, winning the position by a difference of five votes in the final ballot, having led with only three votes in the first one.

The other officers for the Class of 1988 — all of whom will serve for the next five years — ran unopposed, though none of them served last year. Linda Chang will become the senior class treasurer, C.J. Debbie Lee the class agent and Kimber Lynn Zinger the member at large.

Though ballots were closely divided among the three contestants for freshman class president in the first round, Andrew Strehle and Paul Zelenetz shut out Sharra Davidson to split the final votes, with Strehle winning over Zelenetz by 17 ballots.

Derek Mayweather took the freshman class vice-presidency, though his competitor John McPhail managed to get 40 percent of the vote. The race for the class's secretary was much closer, with Amy Thorsen winning by just seven votes over Aimee Qui-

jano in the final round — although Quijano had initially received more votes.

Paul Antico and Betty Chang will serve as treasurer and publicity chair for the Class of 1991, neither of them having been contested for the posts. Dawn Mitzer and Rachel Wilks — also uncontested — will become the class's social chairs.

Ang Mi (Julie) Kim was elected president of the Class of '90, pulling clearly ahead of Giselle Mosnaim in the final round of counting, after Richard Villanueva was eliminated. Kim served last year as treasurer of the class.

All the other posts for the Class of '90 were filled by uncontested candidates, a turnaround from last year, when their races were hotly contested. None of the incumbent officers ran for reelection to their posts, though Kim and Villanueva vied for the presidency. However, last year's vice-president, Thomas Knight, appeared on the ballot for Undergraduate Association Vice President along with former Class of '90 president Vijay Vaitheeswaran as his running

mate.

Lisa Czerwonka is the new vice-president of the sophomore class, Pamela Barret the secretary, and Melissa Ko the treasurer. Pritti Paul and William Botti will fill the social chair positions.

None of the officerships in the Class of 1989 were contested at all on the ballot, and no write-in candidates received enough votes to be mentioned in the statistics released by the UA.

Carissa Climaco will serve again as president for the juniors, having won a clear victory last year, and Dave Duis will again fill the vice presidency, though he won last year by only five votes. Danylo Kihiczak will serve again as treasurer, and Henry Hough and Charles Sakamaki are the new social chairs.

Under the preferential balloting system which was used in the elections, trailing candidates in each round of vote tabulations were eliminated and their votes redistributed to other candidates. The counting for each office continued until either a candidate received a majority of the vote or only two candidates remained.

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news roundup

from Associated Press wire

World

New Panama sanctions in works

Administration sources say President Reagan probably will order new sanctions aimed at toppling Panama's Gen. Manuel Noriega. The sources say the sanctions would include withholding the next payment for use of the Panama Canal and canceling Panama's special trade status.

Shultz pushes US plan

Secretary of State George P. Shultz PhD '49 said yesterday the US plan for Arab-Israeli peace talks is the "only game in town." Shultz told a House panel the United States will continue to push the plan even if Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir cannot be persuaded to go along when he visits Washington next week.

Local

Teenage thrill killer convicted

A Norfolk Superior Court jury yesterday convicted 15-year-old Rod Matthews of second-degree murder in the thrill killing of a Canton High School classmate. The youth was immediately sentenced to life in prison and can be eligible for parole in 15 years. Matthews was accused of killing 14-year-old Shaun Ouillette with a baseball bat. Prosecutors said the victim was lured into a wooded area of the Boston suburb with a promise of fireworks in the fall of 1986. The victim's mother was disappointed, saying she had hoped Matthews would never be eligible for parole.

Senate to move against murder convict furloughs

The Massachusetts Senate is expected to move quickly on pending legislation to prohibit furloughs for prison inmates convicted of first degree murder. Ways and Means Committee Chairman Patricia McGovern said her committee will act on the proposal at its next meeting, and that there are plenty of votes in the Senate to approve the measure. Top aides to Gov. Michael S. Dukakis have opposed an outright ban on furloughs. A similar bill died in the Senate last year because of opposition by Boston Senator Royal Bolling.

Nation

Dole cuts back

There have been reports that another Republican presidential candidate has been considering pulling out of the race — but Sen. Robert Dole (KS) said yesterday that he is not quitting. The sources say advisors discussed getting out of the race prior to next week's Illinois primary — but that Dole nixed the idea. Later Dole would not acknowledge there had been such talk, saying "it all started in the media."

A spokeswoman for Dole said yesterday that the candidate is laying off more than half of his campaign staff and pulling commercials off the air in Illinois which holds its primary Tuesday.

Hart to drop out

It looks like people have decided. When Gary Hart entered the Democratic race three months ago, he said "let the people decide." Hart won no delegates in the Super Tuesday primaries and sources say Hart will withdraw from the race again today.

Kemp pulls out

After repeated poor showings, Jack Kemp has ended his campaign for the GOP nomination for president. Kemp pulled out of the race yesterday. He left the door open if the eventual winner wants him for a running mate.

Drug testing to resume

The government has ordered the nation's railroads to resume drug and alcohol testing of employees. A judge has temporarily lifted a ban on such examinations pending appeal. A federal appeals court earlier ruled the testing program was unconstitutional.

Veto of Iran-contra bill foreseen

Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci said a bill requiring the White House to promptly notify Congress of all covert actions would be vetoed if it makes it to President Reagan's desk. Carlucci is the first top Administration official to flatly promise a veto of the legislation spawned by the Iran-contra scandal.

Smokers die early, study says

The American Cancer Society says 35 percent of smokers are dying prematurely from tobacco-related causes. In its new report, *Cancer Facts and Figures 1988*, the association says 40 percent of male smokers and 28 percent of female smokers die prematurely.

Bush embarrassed by scandals

George Bush says he's embarrassed by all the scandals surrounding public officials. At a Chicago campaign stop, the GOP presidential front-runner said if he's elected president he'll set up a White House ethics panel.

Weather

Split decision

If you like sunny, spring-like weather, enjoy tomorrow as Sunday promises to be a cloudier and perhaps wetter version of Saturday. A low moving out of the southern Rockies during the weekend will spread a band of snow from the central Rockies through the plains states into the western Great Lakes by Sunday. A warm front will develop ahead of this low today likely remaining south of the area through the weekend.

As high pressure in central Canada attempts to build southward into New England, and the relatively warm, moist air in the gulf states moves northward, rain (or possibly wet snow well north and west) should break out in New England late Saturday or during the day on Sunday. There are indications that either the low will move south of the area or a second low will develop along the coast late Sunday/early Monday night prolonging our inclement weather. After the low moves by, chillier and stormier weather are in store for next week.

Today: Mostly sunny. Winds west 10-15 mph. High 43° (6°C).

Tonight: Clear to partly cloudy and cold. Winds west 10-15 mph. Low 23-28° (-5 to -2°C).

Saturday: Partly cloudy. Winds light and variable. High 42-46° (6-10°C). Low 25-30° (-4 to -1°C).

Sunday: Mostly cloudy with occasional light rain. High 38-41° (3-5°C). Low 30-35° (-1 to 1°C).

Forecast by Michael C. Morgan

Compiled by Niraj S. Desai

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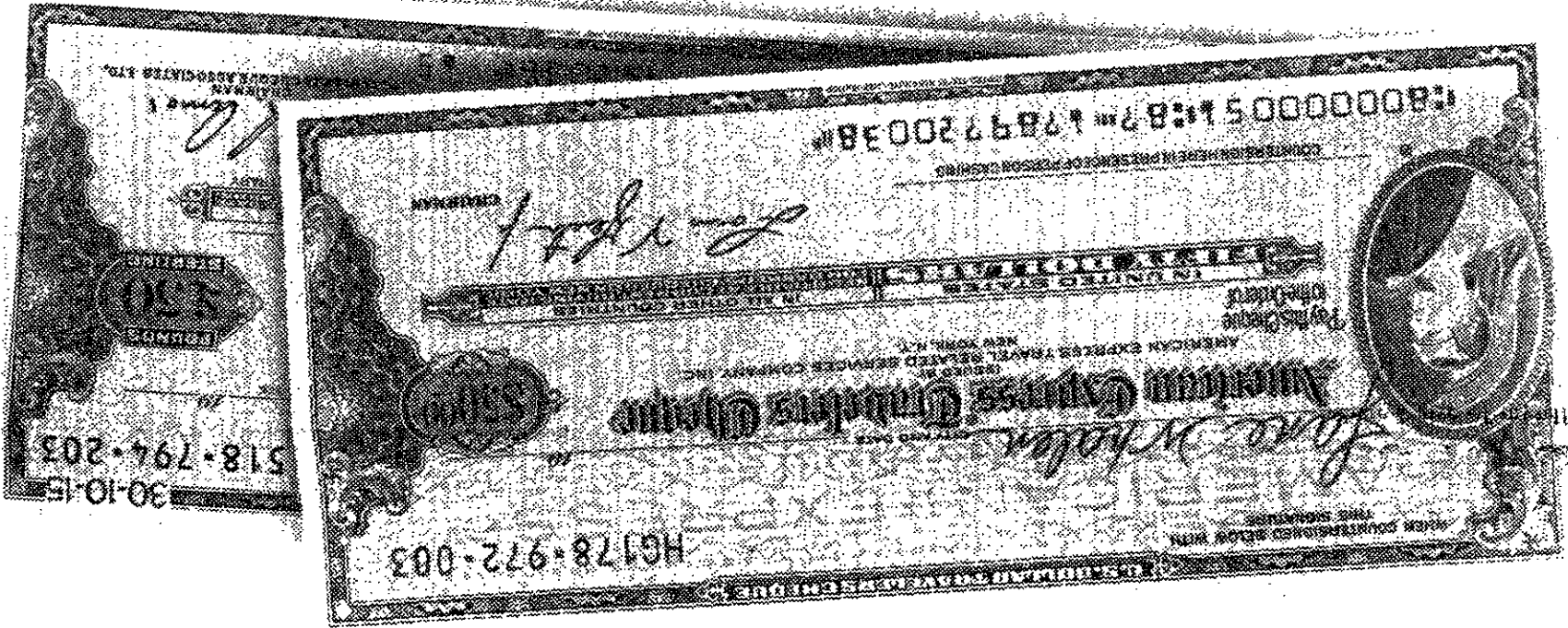
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Directed by Barak Yedidia '89.
Starring Nelson Sharfman '91, Julie Schmitttdiel '91, Carmen-Anita Signes '90, Alex Sherstinsky G, Lindasusan Ulrich '91, Alexa Ogno '91.

THE WALL

Written by Julian West G.
Directed by Derek Clark '89.
Starring Cheryl McCullum '89, Andrea Leszek '91, Seema Nundy '91, Marino Tavarez '88, Mark Dudziak '88, and Mark Wilen '90.

ORAL FIXATION

Written by Daniel Gilly '85.
Directed by Michael Malak '89.
Starring Todd Angerhofer '90, Katrina Nelsen '91, and George Madrid '91.

SEVEN

Written by Kirsten Hoyt '90.
Directed by David Krakauer '88.
Starring Cheryl Casquejo '91, Jeffrey Anderson '90, Margie Schwartz, Kim Fusaris '90, Jason Silver '91, Drea Brandford '88, and Roopali Garg '91.



Mark Morelli/MIT Dramashop
Simon (Nelson Sharfman '91) and Caroline (Julie Schmitttdiel '91) in *Chelsea*, written by Peter Parnassa '90.

with an extremely strong final scene. Marino Tavarez '88 also stood out as Holly's confidant, Greg, calmly reassuring with an understated strong and gentle nature. Overall the acting was casual and natural, well done for students playing the parts of students. Director Derek Clark '89 kept his staging and lighting natural and warm, although the set might have been opened up a bit more for a better view of actors on Molly's bed.

Oral Fixation, written by Daniel Gilly '85, is a fast-paced and witty play on word usage and abuse. Not remembering his wife's name, a husband makes a bet over dinner about pet names so he can stall with those until he can remember her real name. And since she's a romance writer and he works for Roget's Thesaurus, the contest is likely to go on all night, with a hapless waiter looking on in disdain. The play travels on at a frightening clip, and quickly also incorporates the confusion between reality and dream. Gilly has concocted excellent theater for word fetishists.

Todd Angerhofer '90, Katrina Nelsen '91, and George Madrid '91 all put in strong performances as their lines and actions flowed freely with the play's pace.

(Please turn to page 7)

By PETER DUNN

MIT DRAMASHOP'S staged readings of student-written one-act plays have plenty going for them. A little rough around the edges on less than two weeks rehearsal time, the strength and diversity of the four plays still stand out. Ranging in theme from MIT issues to waiter's day-dreams, in tone from solidly based reality to dream quality, the scope of the plays is all the more complemented by exceptional performances in each.

The evening begins with *Chelsea*, written by Peter Parnassa '90, relating the trials and insecurities of impending fatherhood. Parnassa has diligently fleshed out the two principal roles of the soon-to-be-father, recording engineer Simon (Nelson Sharfman '91), and pregnant mother, Caroline (Julie Schmitttdiel), but has left their worrisome parents a little flat. This leaves the first scene with the parents a little weak as their anger and frustrations lack some motivation. Still, the play shows strong points with nice choice of matchup of characters from scene to scene, and interesting use of flashback and flashforward (although the frequent shifts between past reality and future possibility confused some audience members).

Director Barak Yedidia '89 has done a good job in his staging of making clear the divisions between characters in Parnassa's

script, and the pacing towards the end of the play conveys well the building tension. Sharfman stands out among the actors with revealing facial expression and body language, making the most of his oftentimes hilarious character. Other notables are Alex Sherstinsky G as Caroline's stony-faced father, and Alexa Ogno '91 in a deft transition between childish and teenage daughter.

The Wall, written by Julian West G, brings the audience home to its own backyard with a student issue of how much seemingly innocuous actions, like writing on a bathroom wall, can hurt more than expected. Some may dismiss the play's theme as trivial and inconsequential (as was whispered by some audience members seated near this reviewer) but this only goes further to point out how anaesthetized we've become to individual pains. The script has a strong verbal slant, and its characters are well-rounded and real, but the play yearns for a full length production to completely develop some of its underlying themes. West must be congratulated on his ability to convincingly write female roles.

Cheryl McCullum '89 was perfectly cast as Holly, the girl in need of a "reputation" who is eventually victimized by that reputation, always exuding an innocent naivete and giving the play a good final kick

Surreal Mummenschanz features selected elements of mime

MUMMENSCHANZ

At the Colonial Theatre, March 8-20.
Event in The Tech
Performing Arts Series.

By CHRISTOPHER J. ANDREWS

FACELESS STICK FIGURES on blacked-out stage, searching for happiness. Crazy swirls of luminescent motion. Surreal headless monsters, sporting elastic arms and legs, sometimes anchored to floor. No sounds, scuffle of feet and clothing excepted. All this a minimalist mime. Extraneous details excluded. Mime as form and movement.

Essential nature of pantomime: manipulation of hands, explicit during opening sketch, recurring later; giant disembodied gloved hands. No facial expressions, no body movement; just a hand, five feet from wrist to fingernail.

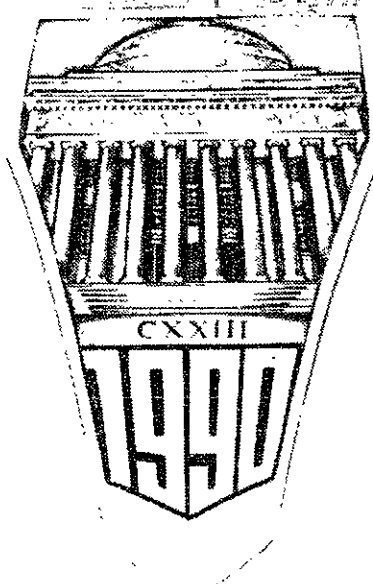
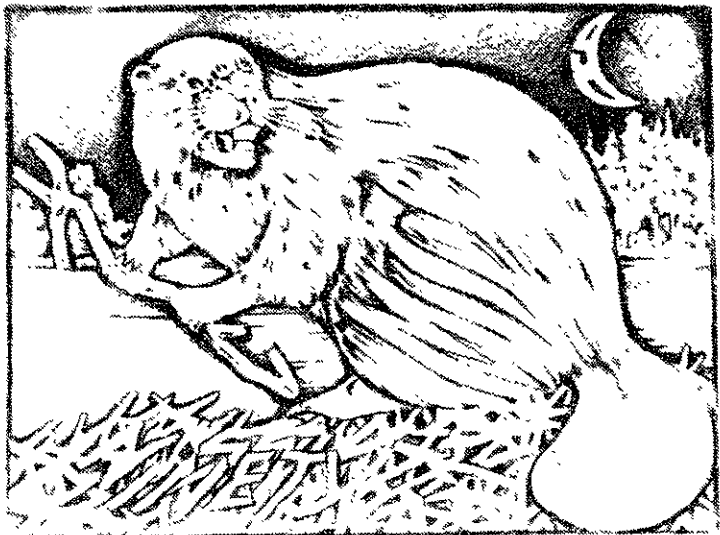
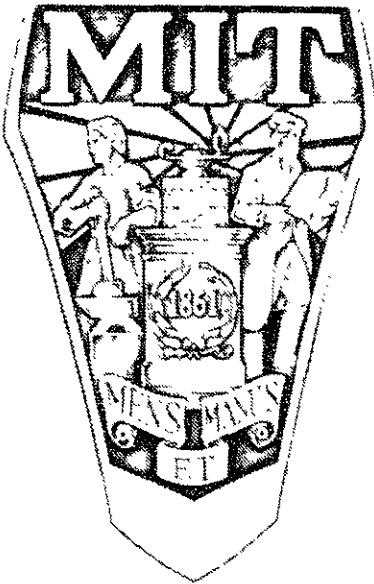
Giant slinky-man, cavorting on stage, striking heroic poses. Another, eight feet tall and headless. A Sumo wrestling match between the two.

Large sheets of white foam-rubber, animated by black-garbed Mummenschanz

(Please turn to page 10)



Class of 1990

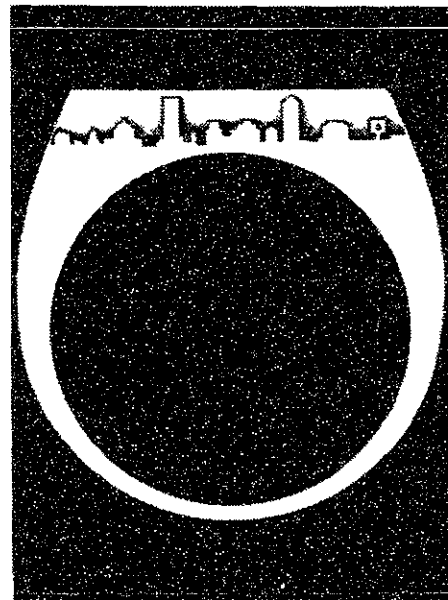
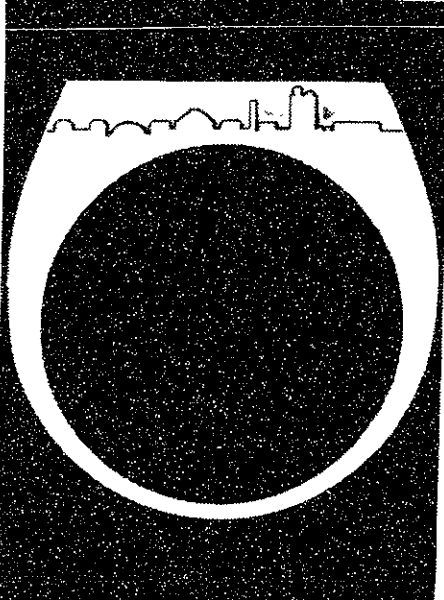


Ring Ordering

Dates: March 10, 11, 14,
15 & 16

Time: 10-3

Place: Lobby 10



ARTS



Mark Morelli/MIT Dramashop

Greg (Marino Tavarez '88), Frances (Andrea Leszek '91), Holly (Cheryl McCullum '89), and Meg (Seema Nundy '91) dig into some Tosci's ice cream in *The Wall*, written by Julian West.

(Continued from page 6)

Director Michael Malak '89 handled handily the transitions between reality and dream, never letting in on the secret and keeping the audience on the edge of their seats.

Seven, written by Kirsten Hoyt '90, closed the evening, bringing the audience once again back to MIT grounds on again a more unsettling note. Certainly the most obtuse and least accessible of the evening's offerings, it still managed to send a strong message of the inner conflicts and frustrations that some MIT students must face. Hoyt has written a personal, riveting, dark vision of internal struggle, punctuated at its end by a spellbinding lecture of what it is like to be black in a white-dominated

culture.

Seven showed more of its rough edges in acting than the three previous plays with some slight overacting. Still, Cheryl Casquejo '91 stood out as the domineering One and Drea Brandford '88 played Six to the hilt with a heartfelt delivery of the *black* speech. Director David Krakauer '88 did an excellent job of staging, making good use of where space is and who dominates that space, but might have done better to tighten it all up a bit.

MIT Dramashop's evening of student-written one-acts must be labelled a huge success. Except for minor faults from such a short rehearsal period, the plays show off the many strengths and diversities of MIT's playwrights and actors.



Mark Morelli/MIT Dramashop

Anthony (George Madrid '91), Orin (Todd Angerhofer '90), and Jenny (Katrina Nelsen '91) in *Oral Fixation*, written by Daniel Gilly '85.

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for interested undergraduate

and graduate students

Student Center Room 483

ARTS

Resnais' sophistication raises Mélo above soap opera**MELO**

Starring Sabine Azema, Fanny Ardant, Pierre Arditi, and Andre Dussolier. Based on the play by Henry Bernstein. Directed by Alain Resnais. At the Copley Place Cinemas.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

THE FRENCH CINEMA has declined in recent years, leaving only pockets of vitality. Among the French directors who have retained a serious commitment to artistic quality is Alain Resnais, whose first fea-

ture *Hiroshima, Mon Amour* heralded the beginning of the French New Wave in 1959. His newest film, *Mélo* — short for “melodrama” — is an excellent adaptation of a 1929 play by Henry Bernstein.



ture *Hiroshima, Mon Amour* heralded the beginning of the French New Wave in 1959. His newest film, *Mélo* — short for “melodrama” — is an excellent adaptation of a 1929 play by Henry Bernstein.

Sabine Azema (previously seen in Bertrand Tavernier's *A Sunday in the Country*) won the Best Actress César for her performance as Romaine. She is the care-free and flirtatious wife of Pierre Belcroix (Pierre Arditi), a quiet unassuming man who is first violinist in an obscure orchestra. One day Pierre's longtime friend Marcel Blanc (Andre Dussolier), and a renowned concert violinist, comes for dinner.

Marcel laments his inability to find a romance based on complete trust and fidelity. Romaine is intrigued by Marcel's romantic lassitude, and becomes his mistress. The melodrama begins when Marcel, who must leave for a world concert tour, makes Romaine promise that she will wait for him to return so they can be together freely. The ensuing conflict includes deceit, broken friendships, attempted murder, and suicide.

While the plot reminds one of the kitsch of modern day soap operas, *Mélo* is far

more intelligent due to the sophistication with which Resnais has integrated film and stage aesthetics. The film is organized into several acts — complete with curtain fall — with stylized sets and lighting that deliberately evoke theatrical artifice. The actors are removed from the immediate emotional level of their character in a stagy manner. Resnais is thus able to explore the melodramatic nature of human relationships in abstract terms rather than with cheap sentimentality.

Resnais leaves no doubt, however, that he is primarily a *film* director, especially in



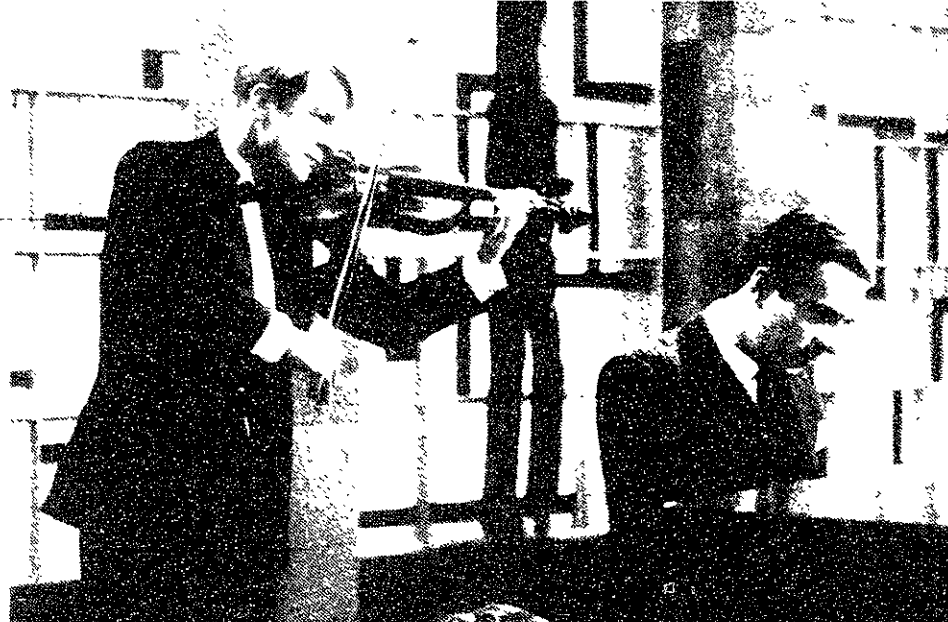
how his love life was scarred when he took a woman to one of his concerts, and noticed her “making love with her eyes” to a stranger in the audience. It ruined their relationship and led to his disillusionment with romance.

As he talks, the camera smoothly pans forward towards the table. Always focused on Marcel, it tracks smoothly around the table past Pierre and Romaine and comes to a halt with Marcel's body in medium close-up. The lighting becomes more low-

key, and the sounds from the city fade away to silence, leaving only Marcel's voice as he goes on with his story. The camera rests for several minutes on Marcel, who never looks directly into it.

The result is spellbinding. The camera, light, and sound manipulations are slow and smooth enough that the viewer remains in Marcel's reverie. In this complex *mise-en-scene*, Resnais fuses the respective strengths of stage and film with such consummate skill that one forgets how fundamentally different the two aesthetics are. Resnais is able to manipulate tensions of distant intimacy in ways that would be difficult in either medium alone.

Resnais has been criticized for choosing to lavish such elaborate attention on a play that may not deserve it. One must remember, however, that Resnais is a consummate artist: there is no doubt that he deliberately stripped the melodrama of its triteness in order to examine the very real emotions at the heart of the play. By rejecting the tyrannical demands of conventional narrative, and invoking his considerable technical command, Resnais has perhaps found the most ideal cinematic realization of a melodramatic stage play. It is the thinking person's melodrama, a film that eschews immediate emotional appeal without losing the ultimate impact of the issues it describes.



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Bad acting, mindless sex featured in adolescent film

A NIGHT IN THE LIFE OF JIMMY REARDON

Starring River Phoenix and Ann Magnuson. Written and Directed by William Richert. At the Copley Place Cinemas.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

RIVER PHOENIX gained a following based on his performances in *Stand By Me* and *The Mosquito Coast*. This film will do nothing

to enhance his reputation.

He plays a teenager from an upwardly mobile family settling into a ritzy suburb of Chicago. While his friends join the Ivy League, Jimmy gets leaned on by dad to attend his alma mater, a dreary business school. The film is ostensibly about how Jimmy comes to terms with his parents while coming of age.

But the story is a mess from beginning to end, and the acting is atrocious. Jimmy is never a sympathetic character, even when he gets beat up by the poet boy-

Fantastic world of faceless mimes and giant enchanted monsters

(Continued from page 6)

company, bodies invisible against inky backdrop. Strange vitality to ensuing figures, simple geometrical shapes striking lifelike postures. Audience entranced, sometimes giggling.

Magic occasionally wears thin, company no longer using movement to create new life. Summoned alien life form vanished, only an acrobat in elaborate costume, human figure apparent for first time.

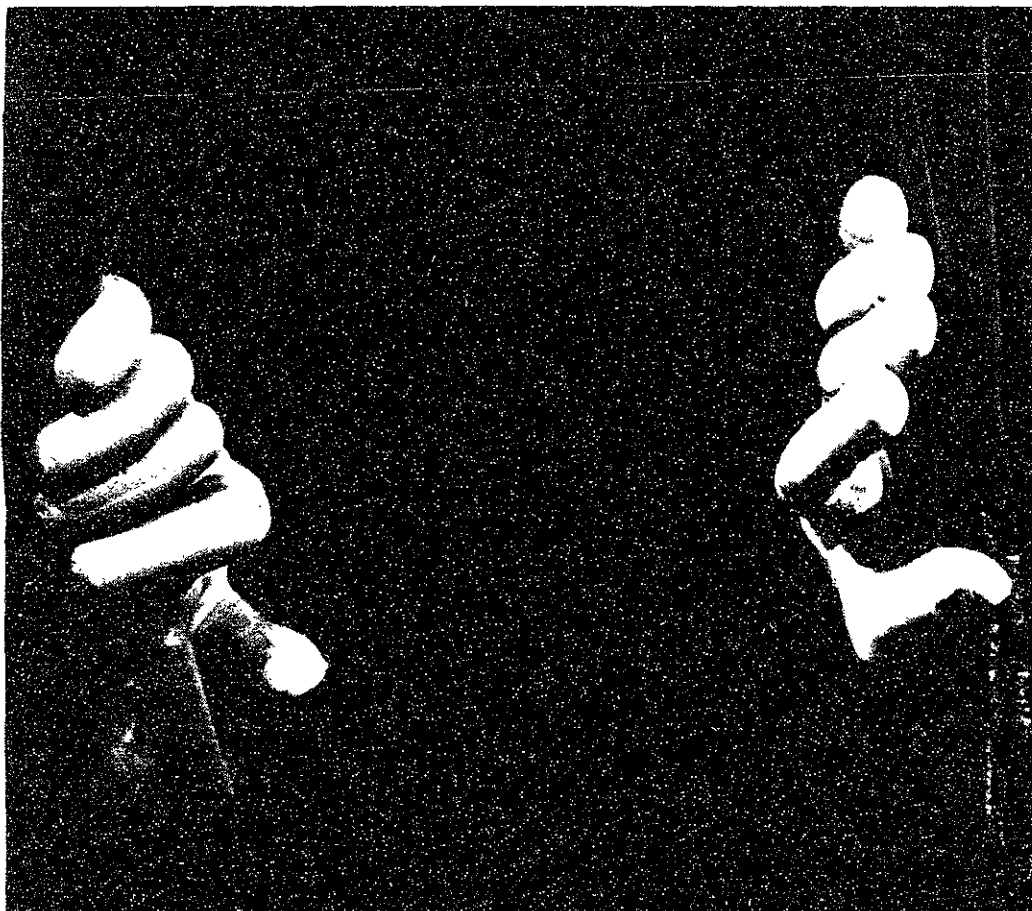
Four long tentacles grow out of stage center. Human figure utterly indistinct; masquerade a success. Tentacles, striped with longitudinal veins, weaving sensuous-

ly in eerie light. A marvel.

Mummenschanz, not mime. Mime, expressive human faces. Mummenschanz, masks. Mime, human-sized, intimate. Mummenschanz, larger than life, nearly filling stage.

Mummenschanz is what mime is about. Graceful movement, simple forms, not human in themselves. Together, evoke scenes from human drama. Bodies as artistic tools. Here, very simple tools.

Provocative, experimental, often funny. Visually appealing. Very surreal. Very good. Mummenschanz.



friend of his ex-girlfriend. One gets the idea that this skinny little runt deserves it.

His fooling around with girls leads him to bed his mother's friend Joyce (Ann Magnuson) — while his date waits for him. Jimmy spends the rest of the film trying to get in the pants of virtually every girl he runs across, and he sees more of his buddy's girlfriend than his buddy does.

The ludicrous sexual stereotyping in this film could be dismissed as an historical anachronism since the film is set in 1962. But because the setting is virtually irrelevant to the story, younger viewers could translate the film's misogyny to the present. The teenyboppers in the row behind me did just that: every time a girl submitted to Jimmy's advances, they would mutter "She's a slut," never realizing that *he* is

the one hopping from bed to bed.

What's worse, this cheap ripoff of *The Graduate* has a sick twist: Jimmy's dad is also sleeping with Joyce. Jimmy finds out and blackmails his dad into forgetting about Jimmy's wrecking the family car. This somehow is supposed to lead to reconciliation and understanding between father and son. It's difficult to believe that a filmmaker would have the gall to assert that a meaningful relationship could be based on such deception.

This film will not be of the slightest interest to those past puberty. If it must be involved in your weekend plans, use it as a 93 minute babysitter for a kid sister or brother. They're perfectly suited to the mentality of this afterschool tv special masquerading as a film.

Passover is Coming

Seder Reservations Deadline: Monday, March 28

MIT Hillel and Temple Beth Shalom of Cambridge will co-sponsor a Community Seder on the first night of Passover, Friday, April 1.

The seder will be held at the Temple, 8 Tremont Street, near Central Square.

Services at 6:00 pm Seder at 6:45 pm

Students \$18 Other MIT \$23

Paid reservations are due at Hillel or at the Lobby 10 Booth on March 28. Cash and Validine accepted. Call for costs for children and non-MIT guests, and for information about home hospitality.



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Minority study will be released in fall

(Continued from page 1)
cieved contempt from non-minority students and feelings of non-acceptance from faculty."

After noticing disparities between minority and non-minority students' responses on a 1984 quality of student life survey, the MSIG focused its attention on an existing survey of black alumni, Braithwaite said. The bulk of the "Racial Climate" report was compiled using data from that 1985 survey, Braithwaite said.

The upcoming second report will address MIT minority admissions, minority financial aid and minority student services, McBay said.

ODSA's role in minority issues questioned

Some students feel that the ODSA has concentrated too heavily on minority interests at the expense of student-wide ones, according to Andrew Eisenmann '75, senior staff associate for residence and campus activities.

The continued absence of an IFC fraternity advisor, this year's poor fraternity rush, numerous disputes over UA student activity funding, and the newly organized committee to study the proper role of the fraternities at MIT have led some students to the conclusion that the ODSA is more concerned with funding and supporting minority issues than student-wide issues, he stated.

"However, while I can understand how those students would arrive at that conclusion," Eisenmann said, "I in no way support it."

The ODSA possesses no internal agenda against the fraternity system, Eisenmann said. He attributed "bad timing" to the fact that this year's poor fraternity rush and the vacancy of the IFC fraternity advisor coincided. While acknowledging the importance of other issues, Eisenmann upheld the necessity for the mi-

nority reports, arguing that they are crucial to MIT because they define the reference frame from which MIT will be viewing its changing demographics and defining its future student policies.

Despite the many financial needs of the ODSA, McBay decided that this series of reports was so important that she hired an assistant dean for research, Braithwaite stated. In order to collect data on MIT minority financial aid, minority student services and admissions and to obtain data on minority faculty, McBay recognized that new research was going to have to be done, Braithwaite said.

The new researcher will also keep statistics on international students and help with the committee charged to investigate the fraternity system, according to McBay.

McBay: National attention brought MSIG to a standstill

In explaining the two-year gap between the MSIG's first report and the expected release date of their second report, McBay cited the unexpected attention that "The Racial Climate on the MIT Campus" received from both the national media and the MIT community.

The national notice brought the group's progress on the second report to a standstill, according to McBay. Scholars, administrators, and newspaper reporters from around the country came to talk to the group about the report or invited the group to lecture on the findings and connations of the report, she said. "We used up both valuable time and resources explaining the study and its findings of racism at MIT," she stated.

"Of course, the Minority Student Issues Group also had to address the MIT student body, faculty and staff, and the study's more negative implications about the MIT community," continued

McBay.

Braithwaite noted that the group spent much effort trying to communicate to the MIT community that everyone has a stake in the issue of racial discrimination, not just the minority groups.

"It is hoped that controversy surrounding "The Racial Climate on the MIT Campus" has brought the problem of racism to light and opened it up for analysis and discussion," McBay said.

New research needed for second report

Braithwaite explained that since the MSIG has access to financial aid statistics and to statistics on minorities from the admissions office, the question of research for the second report is not so much in collecting data but in determining how to present that data. "These statistics are like a loaded gun by themselves. The group and the group members charged with authoring the second report must determine the proper context and background for all of the facts and figures concerning minority admissions and financial aid," she said.

Both Braithwaite and McBay agreed that this second report is important to the MIT community because it demonstrates a perceived commitment on the part of the MIT administration to the bettering of MIT's racial climate. "The main focus of this minority study series is to provide a foundation upon which to build a better understanding of the racial experience throughout the MIT community," McBay noted.

Braithwaite suggested that "The Racial Climate on the MIT Campus" has had a very positive effect upon minority students in general. "Most minority students to whom I have spoken about the report feel that it was bold of MIT to put it out publicly, believe that it was overdue and are waiting to see what happens — are waiting to see if MIT follows up," she said.

The MSIG will issue its third and final report in the spring of 1989, Braithwaite stated. McBay said this report will investigate minority faculty recruitment and the importance of minority faculty relations with minority students.

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sports

Men's gymnastics take fourth place

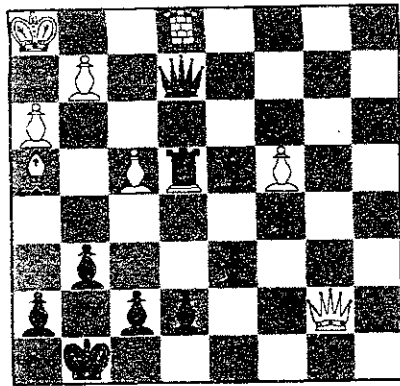
By Eric M. Reifschneider
The MIT men's gymnastics team placed fourth in the New England Championships last Sunday at the University of Vermont. Division I powers Southern Connecticut State and University of Massachusetts at Amherst dominated the meet, scoring 262.45 and 259.6 respectively. Springfield College was third with 253.7.

MIT avenged last week's narrow loss to Vermont by beating out the host team for fourth place with a season-high team score 197.35 to UVM's 186.5. Dartmouth College was sixth with 181.05.

Chess club at top of Boston metropolitan competition

By Satyajit Rao
With its victory over the Boylston chess club last Friday, MIT emerged at the top of the preliminary rounds of the Boston Metropolitan Chess League. The top four teams will now play for the trophy. MIT has maintained an undefeated record after having beaten Boston University, Northeastern University, and the Harvard 1 team and having drawn with Harvard 2 and "The Mysterious Rook Moves."

Two weeks ago in our match against Harvard 2, I stole a few moments to glance at the progress on my right and this is the position I saw:



The exchange of the black queen for the white rook and bishop leaves black with a superior endgame. Black's two extra pawns should easily win the game notwithstanding any antics of the white queen. The interesting question then is not whether black can win but if he can do it aesthetically.

Judge for yourself. . .
24 Q x R ch R x R ch
25 B x Q R x B ch
26 K-R2 B-N7 ch
27 K-N6

competing on more events than a year ago, was not intimidated by the high level of competition. In past New England Championships the Engineers failed to perform to the best of their ability, but this year the MIT gymnasts were determined to show the competition what they could do.

Co-captain Norman Chen '88 did a Veronin and a piked (straight-leg) double back flip dismount to score 7.25 on high bar. Jason Kipnis G nailed his double back flip dismount on rings for a season-high score of 7.5. Mark Malonson '89 had a personal record 39.3 all-around score, including 8.3 on floor and 7.6 on rings.

Alan Nash '89 scored 7.9 on parallel bars, 7.25 on floor, and 39.6 all-around. Co-captain Eric

The other option is K-K1 but then white would lose his King Knight and Bishop pawns, which would be fatal:

27	K-R1	B-K6ch
28	K-R2	BxPch
29	P-N3	R-K7ch
30	K-N1	BxP
31	Q-B3	R-K8ch
32	K-N2	B-K4

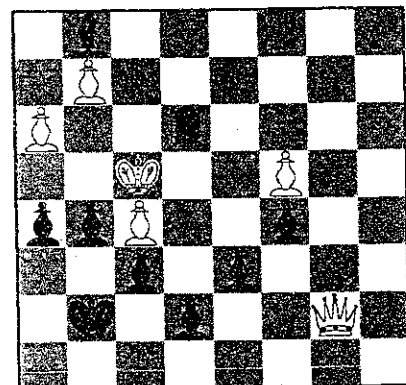
The actual play was as follows:
27 R-K6ch

(Let the king hunt begin!)

28	K-N4	
K-R4	isn't any better.	
29		P-R4ch
30	K-N5	K-N2
31	P-B5??	

This is bad as evident from the rest of the game, but what can white do to prevent mate? One possible continuation would be:

31	Q-N2ch	P-B3ch
32	K-R4	B-R2
33	Q-KB2	BxP



but then white can't prevent mate without losing his queen.

31		P-B3ch
32	K-B4	P-N4

checkmate. Undoubtedly a satisfying game for Garcia; there are few experiences to beat the thrill of pulling off a successful king hunt in a match!

The team members are Eric Shukan '89, Satyajit Rao G, Federico Garcia '91, Michael Ho '89, Mark Dynna G, Steven Britten and George Yu '88.

Reifschneider '89 posted a 41.45 all-around score, including season highs of 7.1 on floor and 6.85 on pommel horse. Malonson, Chen, Reifschneider, and Nash all scored between 8.35 and 8.45 on vault.

Although Southern Connecticut State won the meet, two MIT graduate students clearly stole the show. Late in the meet, the tense competition momentarily ceased as gymnasts and spectators alike focused their attention on Robert Playter G and Seth Riskin G, who is also coach of the MIT women's gymnastics team. Playter and Riskin were members of Ohio State's 1985 NCAA championship team.

Playter and Riskin entertained the crowd with scintillating exhibition routines on parallel bars and high bar. Playter wowed the audience with a series of Diamadovs and stutz-handstands on parallel bars and a truly awesome high bar routine capped by a full-twisting double back flip dismount.

Riskin impressed everyone with his uncanny sense of balance while holding an English (one-bar) handstand and an unique wide-armed handstand on parallel bars; he showed the skill which once made him NCAA champion on this event by doing a heli twirl from a handstand to an immediate front flip between the bars.

MIT's regular season is now over, but it appears likely that the team will qualify to compete in the Division II-III National Championships for the first time ever. Based on the average of the three highest season scores, MIT is currently ranked sixth in the nation. The top six teams qualify, and the only team known to have a chance of surpassing MIT in upcoming meets is the City College of New York (CCNY), which lost to MIT by more than 20 points in a meet at West Point three weeks ago. This year's national championships will be held April 1-2 at Springfield College. (Editor's Note: Eric M. Reifschneider '89 is co-captain of the men's gymnastics team.)

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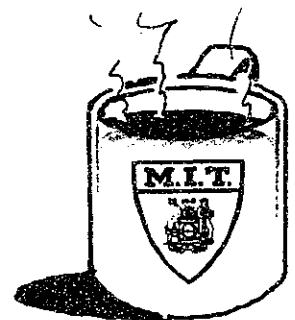
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